

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-05-03

Issued at: Palmer, Tuesday, June 17,
2003

Effective Date: 6:00 a.m. Wednesday
June 18, 2003

Expiration Date: 11:00 p.m. July 13, 2003,
unless superseded by subsequent emergency
order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the daily bag and possession limit for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length in the Deshka River from one fish per day, two in possession to two fish per day, four in possession in the Deshka River drainage from its mouth upstream approximately 17 miles to the ADF&G markers located near Chijuk Creek and all waters within a ½ mile of the Deshka River's confluence with the Susitna River. This emergency order is effective from 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 18th through 11:00 p.m. July 13th. The total annual limit of 5 king salmon 20" or greater in length remains in effect.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 61.022(d)(6)(B) are superceded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 18 through 11:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 13:

5AAC 61.022(d)(6)(B) DESHKA RIVER: WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS.

(B) From the mouth of the Deshka River upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers near Chijuk Creek (river mile 17), and in all waters within a one-half mile radius of its confluence with the Susitna River the bag and possession limits for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length are two fish per day and four fish in possession from 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 18 through 11:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 13.

Kevin C. Duffy
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Dave Rutz
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

A total of 17,478 king salmon have passed the Deshka River weir to date. In addition, several thousand king salmon have also been observed downstream of the weir. It is currently projected that the

upper end of the escapement goal range of 17,000 to 28,000 will be exceeded by more than 25%. As provided by 5 AAC 75.003. EMERGENCY ORDER AUTHORITY (2) (A), the department has emergency order authority to liberalize methods and means of harvest when the total escapement is projected to exceed the escapement goal range by 25%. Therefore, it is warranted to provide for an increase in bag and possession limit for the Deshka River king salmon fishery to harvest fish in excess of the escapement goal range.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.